

# By the Lord Deputie and Councell.

## A Proclamation concerning Alehouses.

OLIVER GRANDISONE.



Whereas diuerse intollerable mischies, to the common wealch of this Realme of Ireland, doe daily grow and encrease through the excessive number of Alehouses, and other houses called Tipling houses, and through such abuses and disorders as are commonly vsed and practised within the same: for redress wherof there is no positive law by any Act of Parliament as yet established within this Kingdome. And whereas a late Act of State was made and published by vs the Deputie and Councell of this Kingdome, for the better ordering of the said Alehouses, and reducing them to some lesser number, by suppressing all such as should not be thought fit, and lawfully licensed to sell Ale or Beere by retails, with the imposition of certaine fees or summes of money, amounting to ten shillings six pence sterling vpon every person which should be so licensed: Since which time, the Kings most excellent Maiestie in his abundant and accustomed fauour to his louing subjects of this Realme, hath bene graciously pleased (vpon the humble suite of some of his subjects of this Kingdome) to remit, and at his highnesse owne charge to call in the Letters patents graunted of some part of the said fees and summes of mo-

ney, and to withdraue the residue of the same from others, to whom by his highnesse former appointment & the late Act of State it was limited; by which (as by many other things) it appeareth, that his excellent Maiestie desireth rather the common good, then the private benefite of any perticular persons, howsoeuer well deseruing: And yet his highnesse still continuing his former care of the publike good of this Kingdome, as he hath giuen direction to vs for the reuoking of the said Act of State: so in his princely wisdom he hath conceiued, digested, and transmitted to be held and obserued in this his Realme, certaine other rules and directions, as well for the reducing of the said Alehouses to a conuenient number, and to such persons and in such places as may be most for the good of the common wealth, as also for the good rule and order to be kept within the same: and hath required vs the Deputie and Councell to ratifie and strengthen the same by a prouisionall Act of State in this Kingdome. According to which his Maiesties commandement, we haue reuoked the said former Act of State, and confirmed his Maiesties later directions by a new prouision or Act of State, according to the tenor of his Maiesties letters bearing date at Westminster the three and twentieth day of January, in the eighteenth yeare of his Maiesties reigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the foure and fiftieth. And now to the intent that any of his Maiesties officers and louing subjects, whom the same may concerne, may not pretend ignorance of his Maiesties royall pleasure concerning the premises, wee, his Maiesties Deputie and Councell of this Kingdome, according to the intention of the said later Act of State, and his highnesse said letters, doe hereby in his Maiesties name straightly charge and command that no maner person whatsoever shall keep any Alehouse or Tipling house, nor sell any Ale or Beere by retails within this Kingdome, but onely such as shall be licensed, according to the true meaning of the said last prouisionall act of State, vpon such peines as be hereafter mentioned, and to be further punished as contemners of his Maiesties royall pleasure.

And wee do further hereby declare, that every person so to be licensed shall before or vpon receipt of his licence, pay vnto his Maiesties vse three shillings and six pence currant money of and in England, and no more, for every yeare that hee shall stand or be so licensed. And for that no licences can be graunted, but by some persons sufficiently to be authorized in that behalfe, wee haue therfore giuen order and directions, that commissions shall be awarded vnder the great Seale of this Kingdome into every countie of this Kingdome, to a conuenient number of Commissioners (some of the chieftest to be of the Quorum) to be nominated by the Deputie or chiefe Gouvernor or Gouvernors of this Kingdome, with the consent of his Maiesties priue Councell in this Kingdome for the time being. The said Commissioners to be chosen of the Justices of the Peace, with such others to be added vnto them, as the Deputie or other chiefe Gouvernor or Gouvernors and Councell of this Realme for the time being shall thinke fit. Which Commissioners, or any two or more of them shall consider as well of the number fit to be allowed for keeping Alehouses and Tipling houses, as of the places where the same shall be kept, and the abilitie and sufficiency of the persons that shall be licensed to keepe the same: which said Commissioners, or two (or more) of them at the least (whereof one to be of the Quorum) shall yearly betwene the first day of Aprill, and the last of June, assemble at the quarter Sessions, or some other knowne times and places to be appointed by them or two of them in that behalfe, within the limits of their Commissions, and then and there shall make choyse of such persons, whom (as well for their good behaviour, as for their abilitie and conueniencie of houses, furniture, and places of dwelling) they shall know, or be credibly informed, to be the fittest to keepe alehouses. And that the same Commissioners, or any two or more of them (so one be of the Quorum) shall licence such persons to keepe alehouses for one yeare following the making of such licence, and no longer, And the partie so licensed shall immediately enter into Recognizance of ten pounds sterling to his Maiestie, before the said Commissioners by whom he shall be so licensed, The condition of which Recognizance shall be, That the partie so licensed shall obserue the assize of Bread, Ale and Beere, and keepe two beddes well and conueniently furnished for the lodging of strangers, and not to vse or suffer any common dyting or carding, and to keepe good order in his or their houses, nor willingly to harbour any suspected persons of ill behaviour during the time of their licences: the said licences to be made at the publike Sessions, or other publike meetings of the said Commissioners (or any two or more of them as aforesaid) for that purpose, and not otherwise, And that the said Commissioners, or any two or more of them as aforesaid, by their said commission shall be specially authorized, as well to take the acknowledgement of the said Recognizances to his Maiesties vse, as to graunt and make the said Licences.

And wee further declare, and in his Maiesties name straightly charge and commaund, That every such alehousekeeper shall pay to his Maiesties vse the said three shillings six pence currant money of and in England, and no more, to the hands of the Clerke of the Peace, or other collector to be appointed for that purpose by the Custos Rotulorum in every countie (for which clerke of the peace or other collector, so to be appointed, the Custos Rotulorum is to answere) the same three shillings and six pence to be payd to his Maiesties vse before the person so to be licensed take out his licence, and the said clerke of the peace or other collector, is to giue an acquittance without taking any thing for the same, And that the Clerke of the peace of the countie, or other collector as aforesaid, shall attend every commission, as well to make Licences and Recognizances, and to enter the names of all such as shall be licensed into a faire booke, as also to receiue such moneyes as shall accrue out of the said licences vnto his Maiestie; and the seuerall summes thereof like wise to enter into the said booke: which booke, at the end of every sitting, shall be signed with the hands of two of the Commissioners at the least (whereof one to be of the Quorum) and shall be returned, together with such money as shall be received as aforesaid, into his Maiesties Exchequer yearly, by the end of fortie dayes after the signing thereof by the said Commissioners, or any two or more of them as aforesaid, And the Custos Rotulorum shall be answerable to his Maiestie for such moneyes as by any such Clerke of the Peace, or other collector shall be received.

And wee doe hereby in his Maiesties name straightly charge and command, that no person shall presume to keepe any common alehouse, or tippling house, or vse any common selling of Ale or Beere by retails, without licence, vpon paine that every person offending herein shall for every moneth wherein he shall sell any Ale or Beere contrary to the intention of this Proclamation, forfeit twentie shillings current money aforesaid, to be paid to the said Clerke of the peace, or other collector, viz. the one halfe to his Maiesties vse, and the other halfe to the vse of him that shall informe: And the said Commissioners, or any two of them (whereof one to be of the Quorum) shall haue power by their commission to heare and determine the said contemptes and offences, and to impose the said fines, and to commit the parties offending to prison, vntill they shall pay the said fines, And the Custos Rotulorum, vpon payment thereof, to be answerable for the same as aforesaid.

And wee the said Deputie and Councell doe further declare and ordaine, That if any of the said clerkes or collectors shall either directly or indirectly exact, take or receiue of any person to be licensed as aforesaid, any summe of money, fee or reward for any of the said Recognizances, licences, or acquittances (other then the said three shillings six pence for his Maiesties vse, as aforesaid, or the forfeitures aforesaid) for keeping an Alehouse or Tippling house, or commonly selling Ale or Beere by retails without licence, he so offending shall forfeit for every such offence ten pounds current money aforesaid, the one halfe to his Maiesties vse, and the other halfe to him that shall informe, and shall also be put from his office for the said offence. And wee further giue order, authorize and declare, that the Justices of assize in every countie shall haue power to heare and determine the said offences, and to put from the employment such Clerke of the peace, or other collector aforesaid, which shall be found delinquent concerning the premises, and to imprison them vntill they haue paid the said fines. And if any of the said Commissioners shall either directly or indirectly take any summe of money, fee or reward of any of the said Alehousekeepers, for or concerning the obtaining of any the licences aforesaid, he or they so offending shall be punished by the Deputie or other chief Governour or Governours, and Councell of this kingdome for the time being, as to them shall be thought fit.

Provided alwayes, that such persons as shall sell ale or beere onely in places where the generall assises or the quarter sessions shall be kept, during the time of the assises or sessions, or at faires during the time of the faires, shall not be impeached for selling the same without licence. And wee further order and declare, that every Clerke of the peace, or other collector to be appointed as aforesaid, shall haue for his labour in the execution of the said office, five pounds current money aforesaid per annum, to be paid him out of the said money to be receiued for licences aforesaid, and the same to be allowed vpon his accompts.

And for the moze expedite dispatch of the said service, and that the Commissioners may not neede to attend many dayes in the sessions, wee haue given order and taken a course, that a convenient number of Licences, Recognizances and Acquittances shall every yeare be printed at his Maiesties charge, with blanchs for the names of the parties to be licensed, and that the same shall be deliuered to the said seuerall Clerkes of the peace, or other collectors so to be appointed.

And wee doe in his Maiesties name hereby commaund and require, That every one so to be licensed shall haue some Signe, Stake or Bush at his doore, to giue notice vnto strangers and travellers, where they may receiue entertainment, and meate, drinke and lodging for their money, at reasonable and competent rates. And lastly, wee haue thought fit, and so haue gi- order and directions, that all the orders and obseruations aforesaid shall be published and made knowne to the people by publike Proclamation, vnder the great Seale, in every Market towne. And because in so great a worke many things may occur which cannot for the present be foreseene, wee haue further given order and direction that the said Commissioners shall haue power and authoritie to put in full and plenary execution, not onely all the aboue mentioned Orders, but also all such further directions and instructions as from time to time shall be sent vnto them from the hands of the Deputie and Councell for the time being, for the well ordering of the said Alehouses.

And wee further in his Maiesties name doe hereby straightly charge and command all such persons as shall hereafter be appointed Commissioners concerning the premises, that they take an order & course, & agree among themselves that the said seuerall Commissions shall be executed according to the tenor thereof, by them or any two or moze of them as aforesaid, within the limits appointed vnto them in their seuerall Commissions, and at the times and places aboue mentioned, so as his Maiesties service herein, and the reformation intended by the said later Act of State, be not in any sort neglected or delayed by the default of them or any of them, vpon paine to incurre his Maiesties indignation, and such further fines and punishments as shall be inflicted vpon them by the Lo: Deputie and Councell for the time being. And wee further command and charge all Mayors, Sheriffs, Bourgois, Soueraignes, Doctours, Bayliffes, Constables and all other his Maiesties officers and louing subjects whom the same may in any sort concerne, that they and every of them be assistant and obedient vnto the said Commissioners, or any two or moze of them as aforesaid, in execution and furthering of all such Warrants and directions as shall be given or made by the said Commissioners, or any two or moze of them as aforesaid, by vertue of their seuerall Commissions, as they and every of them will answer their contempt herein at their perill.

And whereas there be some counties of cities or townes in this kingdome, in which the Citie-Clerke or Towne-Clerke, or some other officer supplyeth the place of the Custos Rotulorum, and there is in such counties no officer commonly knowne by the name of Custos Rotulorum; wee further hereby declare and order, That in every of the counties of such Cities and Townes, the Citie-clerke or Towne-clerke of such Citie or Towne, or (at the election of the Mayor of such Citie or Towne) such other collector as shall be nominated or appointed by the Mayor, shall haue the collection and receiuing of the monies to be payed to his Maiesties vse for the licences aforesaid, and shall doe and execute all such things and matters respectively, as in other counties are by this Proclamation declared and ordered to be done and executed by the Clerke of the peace, or other collector to be chosen by the Custos Rotulorum in other counties in maner aforesaid, And that every such Mayor shall answer for the monies to be receiued during the time of his Maiesties, by such Clerke or other collector to be appointed by him as aforesaid. And that if any of the said Clerkes or other collector so to be appointed by any of the said Mayors, shall commit any of the offences aboue mentioned, contrary to the intent of this Proclamation, that then the said Clerke or other collector so offending shall incurre the like penaltie and punishment respectiue as is aboue limited, and expressed to be imposed vpon the Clerke of the peace or other collector to be chosen by the Custos Rotulorum, as aforesaid, so offending as aforesaid. Given at his Maiesties Castle of Dublin the third day of March. Anno 1620.

Adam Lofrus Canc:	La: Dublin.	Brabazon.	Gar: Moore.	Arthur Savage.	Henry Docwra.
Geo: Shurley.	Dominick Sarsfield.	I. Bleuer Hayter.	Francis Aungier.	Fr: Annelley.	Tho: Roper.

God saue the King.

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